



The Torch

The official newsletter for Indiana state employees

Employees' efforts circle the world as SECC exceeds goal

Hear that sound? It's the sound of appreciation from non-profit organizations throughout the world which will benefit from the generosity of state employees.

This year's State Employee Community Campaign (SECC) netted \$1,253,656 for those charities. This year marks the first time in five years that the campaign has exceeded its goal.

Here is a breakdown of the campaign results:

- Number of state employees who pledged to the campaign: **7,229**



- Number of charities to benefit from SECC: **1,587**
- Number of Champions (those who pledged a half-hour's salary per pay period): **1,310**
- Number of Torchbearers (those who pledge at least \$1,000 per year): **193**.

To break that down even further: the number of Champions represents 18 percent of all donors and those 18 percent raised 60 percent of the monies. The Torchbearers increased their giving over last year's campaign by 33 percent. They contributed \$318,009.

And a special shout out to the

Department of Revenue (DOR) employees. Last year they pledged \$65,911. This year's pledge soared to \$96,933. Congratulations to Bill Bahler and Jackie Norman for heading up DOR's campaign.

Read more about this year's SECC success on page 2 as we profile the Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center 2009 campaign

It's a dirty job but...

Not every state employee has a cushy job. Come to think of it, which of us do? Maybe you have heard of, or even watched, the "Dirty Jobs" show on television? We would like to hear from our fellow state employees about their dirty or unusual jobs as a state employee.

Maybe you or one of your coworkers is responsible for collecting the road kill, or you have the delightful responsibility of traipsing through some swamp water to spray for mosquitoes. Send us an e-mail with your suggestions (and if you have names and phone numbers, even better!) to: spdcommunications@spd.in.gov.

We look forward to some interesting reading in the new year.

Gov. Daniels: 2008 Public Official of the Year

Nov. 12, 2008 - Governor Mitch Daniels accepts Governing magazine's 2008 Public Official of the Year award during a dinner event in Washington, D.C. The governor was selected for achievement in government service, including infrastructure improvements, landmark health care legislation and improved government efficiency.



In this issue

SECC exceeds statewide goal - **page 2**
Smoking down in Indiana - **page 3**
Classifieds are back - **page 4**

Evansville proves much can be done with little

Word has it that money talks. But the folks at Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center are more inclined to believe that food talks. They kicked off their State Employees Community Campaign (SECC) with a bake sale.

"Everybody likes to eat," explained Carolyn James, SECC coordinator and secretary at the Evansville hospital. "When you have it

ready first thing in the morning and they can smell the food, you have a captive audience." Proceeds from the bake sale went to the Ronald McDonald House being constructed

in town. It is expected to open in summer 2009.

Their next effort focused on Water Balloon Olympics. The object was

of nine balloons into the basket. The silver medal went to Bryan Blackman and Carla Kamman took the bronze. Proceeds from this event went to the Vanderburgh Humane Society.



Laurel Vivrette, LPN, anxiously waits while HR Director/SECC Coordinator Sally Kerby prepares to throw a pie.



Joe Kochvar, Rehab Therapist, braved the contest without plastic.

The group then followed up with a pie throwing contest. Superintendent Lonnie Cook took the most hits for this event. The Prevent Child Abuse of Vanderburgh County was the benefactor.

The 66 state employees at the Evansville Center more than doubled their efforts from last year's campaign. They raised \$1,400; compared with last year's \$679.

BMV Online Customers Saved \$6.5 million in 2008

Bureau of Motor Vehicles customers who renewed their 2008 vehicles registrations online collectively saved \$6.5 million due to a \$5 discount incentive, according to Ron Stiver, Commissioner of the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV).

More than 1.3 million BMV customers renewed their registrations online in 2008, compared to just 390,000 in all of 2007.

Ron Stiver, Commissioner of the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) announced that the \$5 discount offer, originally unveiled by Governor Daniels in December 2007, will continue for 2009 online registration renewals, with the goal of attracting even more customers to the convenient and secure online service. The BMV reminds customers that a more convenient year-round

registration schedule will begin in January 2009. Next year provides 45 due dates for registration renewals rather than the 19 due dates in past years. A customer's new due date is on the 2008 registration documents.

"By more than doubling the number of due dates, we will spread out registration transactions more evenly throughout the year and lessen the impact of the 'last minute rush' associated with any one due date," said Stiver. "This will further improve customer service regardless of whether a customer conducts BMV business online, via mail or in a branch or partner location."

To further enhance the security of Indiana driver's licenses and identification cards, the BMV also announced the adoption of new state-of-the-art facial recognition

technology. The technology will allow the BMV to compare a customer photograph, taken during a driver's license or ID transaction, with the six million photographs in the Indiana BMV database to help further protect customers from identity fraud.



Original artwork by Jerry Williams

December classifieds

Please respect the following rules when submitting items:

- Ads are limited to state employees only.
- Contact information must include either a phone number with area code (home or cell, no state numbers) or a home e-mail address.
- Submit ads via e-mail to spdcommunications@spd.in.gov, information must be included in the body of the e-mail, no photos or attachments. No bold or italic type, no ALL CAPS.
- Limit one ad per employee per issue; each ad has a limit of three items.
- Deadline is the 10th of the month prior to the next issue.
- If garage sale, need to list times, date, street address and town.
- No listing of animals, for sale or for free
- No real estate, for sale or rent, including mobile homes, manufactured housing, timeshares, etc.
- No Avon, Mary Kay, vitamins, etc.
- No memberships, businesses or professional services (i.e., tax preparation, car repair, etc.).
- Ads will run for one issue only.
- State Personnel Department staff reserves the right to edit and/or refuse any ads.

Citgo B-1 Supergard radio-control boat & transmitter; 23" long x 6" wide, never used, still in box, \$150 obo. Call 317-691-0251 or 765-544-2438 after 6 p.m.

A-line strapless wedding dress; champagne w/ beige trim, size 14, simple veil & champagne slippers. \$120 obo. Formal A-line spaghetti strap bridesmaid/prom dress; periwinkle, size 12/14 periwinkle shoes size 9 or 9 1/2. \$60 obo. Bridesmaid/prom dress w/ wrap; red, size 12, \$30 obo. Contact Amanda, 317-332-8678 or chevaughn4037@yahoo.com

2000 Bombardier GTX jet skis & trailer; new motor, 1997 GTI w/ new pump & many extras. \$5,500. Call 765-967-7775.

Ibanez bass guitar w/ Fender amp & Gator case. \$300. Call 765-749-8514 or e-mail youthdirector.4square@yahoo.com

1997 27' Jayco self-contained camper; 3 burner gas stove w/ oven, microwave, gas/electric frig, freezer & furnace; AC, sleeps 6, lots of storage. \$5,000. Contact Susan, hoaglandsusan@yahoo.com or 812-866-4214.

Large, moveable aluminum framed & fenced playpen or dog kennel; 17 x 17 x 4', double door. \$310. Synthetic 8' double wall arbor/trellis; \$40. Old, large wood dog house. Free-you remove. Call 317-738-2991.

Deluxe fiberglass truck cap; fits pickup bed 76x60 or all '89-94 Toyota short beds, sliding windows, interior light, excellent condition. \$50 obo. E-mail dford@tds.net or call 765-723-1732 after 7 p.m.

Imaginarium classic train table w/ additional train sets; Good-excellent condition, used very little, cratch resistant double-sided playboard, graphics on one side & solid green on reverse; table has 6 primary colored bins; additional Train sets w/ spiral train set & Rock Quarry mountain set, extra track & accessories, Compatible w/ Thomas & Friends & Brio wooden trains, ages 3-6. \$150. Call 317-910-4523.

2005 Suzuki Boulevard C90; leather saddlebags, touring-style backrest, excellent condition; 3,400 mi. \$5,900 obo. Contact bjelouse@yahoo.com or 317-716-2590.

ProForm 535X treadmill #831.294150; excellent condition, programmable video option/folds up, serviced in May; \$380. Contact amfairchild@yahoo.com or 574-261-8558.

Roper heavy duty large capacity washer & dryer; you transport. \$75 each or \$140 for both. Call 317-965-8706 between 4:30 and 9 p.m.

2005 Polaris Trailblazer 4 wheeler; red, 2x4, auto trans, runs great. \$2,000 obo. Light-dark pink prom dress; size 14. \$30. Teal prom dress; size 11. \$30. Call Ashley, 765-397-3595 or 765-585-7412.

Sony AM/FM/CD/cassette dubbing recorder; Hi fi, 5-disk, remote control, Dolby surround sound, stereo phonograph (turntable), 17 1/4 x 15 1/2, glass-faced cabinet, two 38x12 speakers, very good condition. \$200. Call 317-788-0534.

State museum extends hours on third Thursdays

The Indiana State Museum will extend its hours on the third Thursday of each month. The museum will now be open until 8:30 p.m., in an effort to offer members and the public additional opportunities to visit the museum. All galleries and exhibit will be open as will the Museum Store, with entertainment and programming options to enhance your evening museum experience.

Museum members will enjoy free museum admission as always. Grab 'n Go snacks and a cash bar will be available for refreshment purchases.

December's Third Thursday (Dec. 18) will showcase the newly-revamped Museum Store with special discounts and free gift wrap among the offerings. As a state employee, be sure to take advantage of our 20 percent discount in the store.

Additional activities for the December event include a special performance aptly titled *Surviving the Holidays: Improv at the Museum* presented by Comedy Sportz. This family-friendly comedy group will have everyone laughing as they get ready for the holidays. PeeWinkle's Christmas Puppet Show will also have a special showing that night.

Want more information on the Indiana State Museum? Check out its Web site: www.in.gov/ism.



The Torch is published monthly by the State Personnel Department. Submit your story ideas in an e-mail to: spdcommunications@spd.in.gov The Torch is available online at www.in.gov/spd.

 Printed on Recycled Paper

New deductions start in December

Now that you have selected your health benefits and open enrollment 2009 is behind us, make sure to review your pay stub for the correct deductions. Whether you enrolled or made changes to your selections, your benefits for 2009 will be effective Jan. 1. Those benefits include health, dental, vision and health savings and flexible spending accounts.

Life insurance changes and/or enrollments that do not require Evidence of Insurability with approval from AUL will be effective Jan. 11 for employees on Payroll A. The effective date for state employees on Payroll B will be Jan. 18.

Deductions for health, dental and vision start coming out of paychecks on the following dates:

- **Payroll B** – Dec. 17 (11 days for old plans and rates; three days for new plans and rates)
- **Payroll A** – Dec. 24 (four days at old plans and rates; 10 days for new plans and rates)

Deductions for the flexible spending accounts, health savings accounts and life insurance will begin on the first check in January. For those on Payroll A, that date is Jan. 7. Deductions for employees on Payroll B will start with the Jan. 14 paycheck.

Two less days to work in December

December has 21 working days for state employees. That's because we observe two holidays – Christmas and Washington's birthday. Although George Washington's birthday is in February, we observe it in December, thus allowing us two consecutive days off. For this year, those holidays will be observed Thursday and Friday, Dec. 25 and 26.

Upcoming state holidays

The following is a list of the state holidays for 2009 and the dates on which they will be observed.

2009

New Year's Day - Thurs., Jan. 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day -
Mon., Jan. 19
Good Friday - Fri., Apr. 10
Memorial Day - Mon., May 25
Independence Day - Fri., July 3*
Sat., July 4**
Labor Day - Mon., Sept. 7
Columbus Day - Mon., Oct. 12
Veteran's Day - Wed., Nov. 11
Thanksgiving holidays -
Thurs., Nov. 26 and Fri., Nov. 27
Christmas holidays -
Thurs., Dec. 24 and Fri., Dec. 25

* - Operations regularly scheduled Mon.-Fri.

** - Operations regularly scheduled on Sat.

It's back! Two-nights-for-the-price-of-one at Indiana State Park Inns



*Wish you were here...
For a winter getaway or just for fun!*

Indiana State Park Inns are once again offering their "two-nights-for-the-price-of-one," Sunday through Thursday, beginning Sunday, Nov. 30 and ending Feb. 26, 2009. This deal is for two consecutive nights and is subject to availability. This discount is not valid Dec. 21 through Jan. 1, 2009, nor is it valid for group business.

The Indiana State Park Inns offer cozy, fireplace lounges, comfortable lodge rooms and full-service dining facilities. Where else can you swim in the first indoor water park in a state or national park lodge? Or sit back, relax and watch boats go by on the Ohio River? Or take a walk back in time in a Pioneer village? Or bird watch while you enjoy a meal? Or hike famous Trail #3? Or play golf on Indiana's only state park golf course? Or enjoy a myriad of winter sport activities from cross-country skiing to tobogganing?

Indiana State Park Inns offer a wide range of activities for the whole family to enjoy!

Be sure to inquire about other winter discounts that may be available at the inns.
Call toll-free 1-877-LODGES1 (8am-8pm) to make your reservations.

2009 calendar promotes Indiana

The Indiana Historical Bureau is once again selling calendars that highlight Indiana. The theme for the 2009 calendar is entertainment and education in Indiana. The price is \$14, but state employees receive a 20 percent discount through the Bureau.

A description of the calendar is available at the Bureau's Web site: www.in.gov/history/6450.htm.